

FOR

FORMATIVE. *adj.* [from *forme*, Latin.] Having the power of giving form; plastic.

As we have established our assertion of the femal production of all kinds of animals; so likewise we affirm, that the meanest plant cannot be raised without seed, by any *formative* power residing in the soil. *Bentley's Sermons.*

FORMER. *n. f.* [from *form*.] He that forms; maker; contriver; planner.

The wonderful art and providence of the contriver and former of our bodies, appears in the multitude of intentions he must have in the formation of several parts for several uses. *Ray on the Creation.*

FORMER. *adj.* [from *forma*, Saxon, first; whence *former*, and *former* now commonly written *former*, as if derived from *before*. *Former* is generally applied to place, rank, or degree, and *former* only to time; for when we say, the last rank of the procession is like the *former*, we respect time rather than place, and mean that which we saw *before*, rather than that which had precedence in place.]

1. Before another in time.

Thy air,

Thou other gold-bound brow, is like the first:

—A third is like the *former*. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

2. Mentioned before another.

A bad author deserves better usage than a bad critic: a man may be the *former* merely through the misfortune of an ill judgment; but he cannot be the latter without both that and an ill temper. *Pope.*

3. Past: as, *this was the custom in former times.*

FORMERLY. *adv.* [from *former*.] In times past.

The places mentioned were all of them *formerly* the cool retirement of the Romans, where they used to hide themselves among the woods and mountains, during the excessive heats of their Summer. *Addison on Italy.*

As an animal degenerates by diseases, the animal falls, *formerly* benign, approach towards an alkaline nature. *Arbutnot.*

FORMIDABLE. *adj.* [from *formidabilis*, Latin; *formidabile*, Fr.]

Terrible; dreadful; tremendous; terrific; to be feared.

I swell my preface into a volume, and make it *formidable*,

when you see to many pages behind. *Dryden's Æn. Dedication.*

They seem'd to fear the *formidable* light,

And roll'd their billows on, to speed his flight. *Dryden.*

FORMIDABLENESS. *n. f.* [from *formidable*.]

1. The quality of exciting terror or dread.

2. The thing causing dread.

They rather chuse to be shew'd the *formidableness* of their danger, than, by a blind embracing it, to perish in it.

Decay of Piety.

FORMIDABLY. *adv.* [from *formidable*.] In a terrible manner.

Behold! 'e'en to remoter shores,

A conquering navy proudly spread;

The British cannon *formidably* roars. *Dryden.*

FORMLESS. *adj.* [from *form*.] Shapeless; without regularity of form.

All form is *formless*, order orderless,

Save what is opposite to England's love. *Shakespeare, K. John.*

FORMULARY. *n. f.* [from *formulaire*, French, from *formula*.] A

book containing stated and prescribed models or set forms.

FORMULE. *n. f.* [from *formula*, French; *formula*, Latin.] A set

or prescribed model.

TO FORNICATION. *v. a.* [from *fornix*, Latin.] To commit

lewdness.

It is a new way to *fornicate* at a distance. *Brown's Vul. Err.*

FORNICATION. *n. f.* [from *fornication*, French; *fornicatio*, Latin.]

1. Concubinage or commerce with an unmarried woman.

Bless me! what a try of *fornication* is at the door. *Shakespeare.*

The law ought to be strict against *fornications* and adulteries; for, if there were universal liberty, the increase of mankind would be but like that of foxes at best. *Graunt.*

2. In Scripture, sometimes idolatry.

Thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot, because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy *fornications*, on every one that passed by. *Ezek. xvi. 15.*

FORNICATOR. *n. f.* [from *fornicateur*, French, from *fornix*, Latin.]

One that has commerce with unmarried women.

A *fornicator* or adulterer steals the soul as well as dishonours the body of his neighbour. *Taylor's Rule of living holy.*

FORNICATRESS. *n. f.* [from *fornicator*.] A woman who without marriage cohabits with a man.

See you the *fornicatress* be remov'd;

Let her have needful but not slavish means. *Shakespeare.*

TO FORSAKE. *v. a.* preter. *forsook*; part. pass. *forsok*, or *forsaken*. [from *forsaken*, Dutch.]

1. To leave in resentment, neglect, or dislike.

'I was now the time when first Saul God *forsok*,

God Saul; the room in's heart wild passions took. *Cowley.*

Orestes comes in time

To save your honour: Pyrrhus cools apace;

Prevent his falsehood, and *forsake* him first:

I know you hate him. *A. Phillips's Discreet Mother.*

Daughter of Jove! whose arms in thunder wield

Th' avenging bolts, and shake the dreadful shield,

FOR

Forsook by thee, in vain I sought thy aid. *Pope's Odyssey.*

2. To leave; to go away from; to depart from.

Unwilling I *forsook* my friendly state,

Commanded by the gods, and forc'd by fate. *Dryden's Æn.*

3. To desert; to fail.

Truth, modesty, and shame the world *forsok*;

Fraud, avarice, and force their places took. *Dryden's Æn.*

When ev'n the flying sails were seen no more,

Forsaken of all fight left the shore. *Dryden.*

Their purple majesty,

And all those outward shows which we call greatness,

Languish and droop, seem empty and *forsaken*,

And draw the wondrous gazers eyes no more. *Rever.*

FORSAKER. *n. f.* [from *forsake*.] Deserter; one that forsakes.

Thou didst deliver us into the hands of lawless enemies,

most hateful *forsakers* of God. *Apocrypha.*

FORSOOT. *adv.* [from *forsake*, Saxon.]

1. In truth; certainly; very well. It is used almost always in an ironical or contemptuous sense.

Wherefore doth Lyfander

Deny your love, so rich within his soul,

And tender me, *forsooth*, affection? *Shakespeare.*

A fit man, *forsooth*, to govern a realm, who had so goodly

government in his own estate. *Hayward.*

Unlearned persons use such letters as justly express the

power or sound of their speech; yet *forsooth*, we say, write

not true English, or true French. *Holder's Elem. of Speech.*

In the East-Indies a widow, who has any regard to her

character, throws herself into the flames of her husband's

funeral pile, to shew, *forsooth*, that she is faithful to the

memory of her deceased lord. *Addison's Freeholder.*

She would cry out murder, and disturb the whole neigh-

bourhood; and when John came running down the stairs to

enquire what the matter was, nothing, *forsooth*, only her maid

had stuck a pin wrong in her gown. *Arbutnot. Hist. of J. Bull.*

Some question the genuineness of his books, because, *fors-*

sooth, they cannot discover in them that *frumen gratinus* that

Cicero speaks of. *Baker's Reflections on Learning.*

2. It is supposed to have been once a word of honour in address

to women. It is probable that an inferior, being called, shew'd

his attention by answering in the word yes, *forsooth*, which

in time lost its true meaning; and instead of a mere exclamation

interjection, was supposed a compellation. It appears in

Shakespeare to have been used likewise to men.

Our old English word *forsooth* has been changed for the

French madam. *Guardian.*

TO FORSWEAR. *v. a.* pret. *forsware*; part. *forsworn*. [from *forswarian*, Saxon.]

1. To renounce upon oath.

I firmly vow

Never to wooe her more; but do *forswear* her,

As one unworthy all the former favours,

That I have fondly flatter'd her withal. *Shakespeare.*

2. To deny upon oath.

And that self chain about his neck,

Which he *forswore* not most trustfully to have. *Shakespeare.*

Observe the wretch who hath his faith forsook,

How clear his voice, and how assur'd his look!

Like innocence, and as serenely bold

As truth, how loudly he *forswears* thy gold! *Dryden's Juven.*

3. With the reciprocal pronoun: as, *to forswear himself*; to be

perjured; to swear falsely.

To leave my Julia, shall I be *forsworn*?

To love fair Silvia, shall I be *forsworn*?

To wrong my friend, shall I be much *forsworn*?

And ev'n that power which gave me first my oath,

Provokes me to this threefold perjury. *Shakespeare.*

One says, he never should endure the sight

Of that *forsworn*, that wrongs both land and laws. *Daniel.*

I too have sworn, ev'n at the altar sworn,

Eternal love and endless faith to Thebes;

And yet am false, *forsworn*: the hollow'd shrine,

That heard me swear, is witness to my falsehood. *Smith.*

TO FORSWEAR. *v. n.* To swear falsely; to commit perjury.

Take heed; for he holds vengeance in his hand,

To hurl upon their heads that break his law.

—And that same vengeance doth hurl on thee,

For false *forswearing*, and for murder too. *Shakespeare, Rich. III.*

FORSWEARER. *n. f.* [from *forswear*.] One who is perjured.

FORT. *n. f.* [from *fort*, French.] A fortified house; a castle.

They erected a *fort*, which they called the *fort de l'or*; and

from thence they bolted like beasts of the forest. *Bacon.*

Now to their *fort* they are about to send

For the loud engines which their life defend. *Wall.*

He that views a *fort* to take it,

Plants his artillery 'gainst the weakest part. *Denham's Sephy.*

My fury does, like jealous *forts*, pursue

With death, ev'n strangers who but come to view. *Dryden.*

FORTE. *adj.* [from *fort*.] Furnished or guarded by forts.

Not used now.

Your

FOR

Your desert speaks loud, and I should wrong

To lock it in the wards of covert bosom,

When it deserves with characters of brass

A *forted* residence, 'gainst the tooth of time

And rasure of oblivion. *Shakespeare, Measure for Measure.*

FORTH. *adv.* [from *forth*, Saxon; whence *further* and *furthest*.]

1. Forward; onward in time.

From that day *forth* I lov'd that face divine;

From that day *forth* I cast in careful mind

To seek her out. *Fairy Queen, b. i. cant. 9.*

2. Forward in place or order.

Look at the second admonition, and so *forth*, where they

speak in most unchristian manner. *Whitgift.*

Mad Pandarus steps *forth*, with vengeance vow'd

For Bitias' death. *Dryden's Æn.*

3. Abroad; out of doors.

Uncle, I must come *forth*. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

I have no mind of feasting *forth* to-night. *Shakespeare.*

Attend you here the door of our stern daughter?

Will the not *forth*? *Shakespeare.*

When Winter past, and Summer scarce begun,

Invites them *forth* to labour in the sun. *Dryden's Virg. Æn.*

4. Out away; beyond the boundary of any place.

They will privily relieve their friends that are *forth*; they

will send the enemy secret advertisements; and they will not

also flick to draw the enemy privily upon them. *Spenser.*

Even that sunshine brew'd a show'r for him,

That wail'd his father's fortunes *forth* of France. *Shakespeare.*

5. Out into publick state; publick view.

You may let *forth* the fame with farmhouses. *Peacham.*

But when your troubled country call'd you *forth*,

Your flaming courage, and your matchless worth,

To fierce contention gave a prosperous end. *Waller.*

6. Thoroughly; from beginning to end.

You, cousin,

Whom it concerns to hear this matter *forth*,

Do with your injuries as seems you best. *Shakespeare.*

7. To a certain degree.

Hence we learn, how far *forth* we may expect justification

and salvation from the sufferings of Christ; no further than

we are wrought on by his renewing grace. *Hannand.*

8. On to the end.

I repeated the Ave Maria: the inquisitor had me say *forth*;

I said I was taught no more. *Memoir in S. rype.*

FORTH. *prop.* Out of.

And here's a prophet, that I brought with me

From *forth* the streets of Pomfret. *Shakespeare.*

Some *forth* their cabins peep,

And trembling ask what news, and do hear so

As jealous husbands, what they would not know. *Donne.*

FORTHCOMING. *adj.* [from *forth* and *coming*.] Ready to appear;

not absconding; not lost.

Carry this mad knave to jail: I charge you see that he be

forthcoming. *Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew.*

WE'll see your trinkets here *forthcoming* all. *Shak. H. VI.*

FORTHISSUING. *adj.* [from *forth* and *issuing*.] Coming out; coming

forward from a covert.

Forthissuing thus, she gave him first to wield

A weighty axe, with truest temper steel'd,

And double edg'd. *Pope's Odyssey, b. v.*

FORTHRIGHT. *adv.* [from *forth* and *right*.] Strait forward; with-

out flexions.

He ever going so just with the horse, either *forthright* or

turning, that it seem'd as he borrowed the horse's body, so he

lent the horse his mind. *Sidney, b. ii.*

The river not running *forthright*, but almost continually

winding, as if the lower streams would return to their spring,

or that the river had a delight to play with itself. *Sidney, b. ii.*

Arrived there, they pass'd in *forthright*;

For still to all the gate stood open wide. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

Here's a maze trod, indeed,